(e) Does not arise.

Issue of AC Ist and IInd Class Sleeper Passes

285. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the various categories to which AC Ist Class and AC II Class sleeper passes are issued, the number of such passes issued in 1992-93 and 1993-94 category-wise;

(b) how many exceptions were made in each category during these two years; and

(c) who is the approving authority to decide the various categories or exceptions made thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (b) Presumably the Honourable Member is referring to the issue of Complimentary Card Passes granted to individuals/organisations. The number of First Class/AC 2-tier Complimentary Card Passes issued during 1992-93 and 1993-94 and the number allowed to travel in Ist AC are as under:—

Period	No. of Ist Class/AC 2-tier Complimentary Card Passes issued	Out of Col. (2) the number of Card Pass holders allowed to travel in Ist AC
1992-93	213	14
1993-94	230	15

Such passes are granted by Ministry of Railways to eminent persons, organisaions devoted to social, cultural, scientific, literary, sports and educational activities of all-India character etc. and based on merits|justification of each case.

It is pertinent to mention that all the passes issued have since been cancelled.

(c) These Card Passes are issued with the personal approval of Minister of Railways.

सोनपुर स्थित रेलवे साइडिंग को अन्यत्र ले जाया जाना

286. श्री आस मोहम्मद : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सत्य है कि सोनपुर स्थित रेलवे साइडिंग को अन्यत्र ले जाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) क्या सरकार का उक्त साइडिंग को पुनः सोनपुर में स्थापित करने का विचार है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी. के. जाफर शरीफ): (क) से (घ) सोनपुर रेलवे स्टेशन पर न तो कोई रेलवे साइडिंग थी और न हीं कोई साइडिंग है, बहरहाल, सोनपुर और प्लाजाघाट के बीच एक साइडिंग थी जिसे 1985 में यातायात के लिए बन्द कर दिया गया था और 1989 में अन्ततः उखाड़ दिया गया था, इस साइडिंग को पुनः खोदने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है क्योंकि यह वित्तीय दृष्टि से औचित्यपूर्ण नहीं है ।